

HOUSE RESOLUTION 43

By Brooks K

A RESOLUTION recognizing the 400th anniversary of the first printing of the Authorized King James Version of the Bible.

WHEREAS, at the Hampton Court Conference, convened in January of 1604 by the newly-crowned King James I, a new English translation of the Bible was commissioned, and thus began a tremendous collaborative effort between a large group of learned translators; and

WHEREAS, over the next seven years, forty-seven translators, each of whom were members of the Church of England, transcribed the Old Testament, New Testament, and Apocrypha into English, a feat which required fluency in the Greek, Hebrew, and Latin languages; and

WHEREAS, upon the completion of the translation, the original printing of the Authorized King James Version of the Bible was published by Robert Barker, the King's Printer, in 1611; and

WHEREAS, the King James Version of the Bible rapidly became the predominant translation used throughout the world, a position it maintained through the first half of the Twentieth Century; and

WHEREAS, in its four hundred years of continuous publication, the King James Version of the Bible has greatly impacted the world. It was the first Bible to become largely available to the masses, it has influenced the world's language, it has been used to swear many into positions of great power, and it has influenced so many people, from poets to painters, from songwriters to scientists, from the clergy to the laity; and

WHEREAS, the Authorized King James Version of the Bible has been of great importance in the shaping of our world's cultures and customs, and copies of the publication have served to inspire many to achieve great and wonderful accomplishments; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this body recognize this momentous occasion in the history of this publication; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby recognize the 400th anniversary of the first printing of the Authorized King James Version of the Bible.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.